

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Yasushi SUGAWARA, et al.

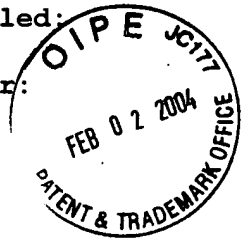
Prior Art Unit 1745

Appln. No.: 10/680,408

Prior Examiner C. Chaney

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL AND PREPARATION METHOD FOR
POLYMER ELECTROLYTE FUEL CELL



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the art listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. All of these references except for US '173 and US '965 were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated December 24, 2003 or another Japanese Office Action dated July 29, 2003 (English translations attached). US '173 corresponds to JP '190 and US '965 corresponds to JP '993.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Ledbetter
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Date: February 2, 2004

JEL/spp

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